TFR1 Repatriation of WWII POWs; German-held POWs transiting Odessa; Robert Reynolds Article; Americans in GULAG

TFR 1-1

1945 Letter to Molotov re 1,200 US former POW's in Odessa

Received 3 March 1945

[TFR1-1]

OSIA/DXL

Translated from English

EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3 March 1945

My dear Mr. Molotov,

In the absence of Mr. Vyshinsky I am writing to you about the liberated prisoners of war. Yesterday evening I was informed that approximately 1,200 officers and enlisted men of the United States, former prisoners of war, arrived in Odessa awaiting repatriation. My government expresses its profound gratitude to Soviet authorities for the energy and concern shown in assembling this first large group of Americans.

Deep gratitude is also expressed to the Polish Red Cross for the assistance it has provided in many cases to these officers and enlisted men to improve their living conditions.

I have received reliable information that approximately 3,000 of our former prisoners of war remain in Poland. Many of them are sick, others are scattered in groups in various parts of Polish territory and are in difficult conditions. When I visited Mr. Vyshinsky on February 26, he told me that according to information available to him, all American liberated prisoners of war, including those that were ill, were in trains on their way to Odessa. He was also kind enough to report that if any more liberated prisoners of war were found, my request to him would be looked upon favorably.

Lieutenant Colonel Wilmet, along with Lieutenant Colonel Kingsbury and Corporal Kizil, received permission to travel to Lyublin, and they should have arrived there last Monday, February 26. However, since their arrival I have received no information about what they are doing and whether they have been permitted to see former prisoners of war at other locations.

These officers were instructed to immediately contact General Dean, and since we have received no information from them I can only assume that they were not provided the means to communicate with him.

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Therefore, I urgently request that instructions be issued to provide these officers freedom of movement to any place where our former prisoners of war are located, and that the officers be given the opportunity to communicate with General Dean in Moscow.

In addition, I request that American airplanes in Teheran and in Poltava be permitted to fly to Poland to transport supplies needed to alleviate the suffering of these former prisoners of war, as requested by General Dean. I also request that on their return from Poland to Poltava these airplanes be permitted to evacuate the sick and wounded for treatment in the American hospital in Poltava.

Soviet agencies have not yet permitted the use of these airplanes with a U.S. crew for this purpose, as General Dean and I have requested. You will recall that in the agreement reached with the Soviet government in Yalta it was envisioned that each Party, by agreement with the other Party, should be given the opportunity to use whatever of its own transportation assets that might be used to repatriate its citizens and to transport supplies to them. Certainly the use of our airplanes, which are ready for the purposes outlined above, meets the letter and spirit of the Agreement.

I wish to repeat that we are very grateful to the Soviet Union for what has been done for our former prisoners, but I am sure You will agree that the terms of the Agreement reached in Yalta should be implemented in all respects. I wish to thank you in advance for considering all these questions.

Sincerely yours,

V.A. Harriman

Translated by: [signature]

(Potrubach)

Distribution:

Comrades Stalin

Molotov

Mikoyan

Malenkov

Vyshinsky

Dekanozov

Golikov

[rest cut off at bottom of page]

TFR 1-3

To: Deputy Chief, Red Army Rear Echelon

General-Colonel VINOGRADOV

[Tr. Note: Handwritten entry in upper left: DN (ag2?) Sat (34?)

Yu. Ch. (initials)]

R E P O R T

on the organization of transit camps and a transfer point in the city of Odessa as of 22 March 1945

I. BILLETING

Four sanatoria, four schools and one residential building, a total of nine buildings with area of 11,330 square meters, have been allotted by Gorispolkom for transit camps. These buildings can accomodate 8,500 persons, 800 of them officers. All rooms have been readied and equipped with all necessary

furnishings. All buildings have been provided with plumbing, electrical power, dining facilities. However, there is an insufficient number of wash stands and field latrines.

The officers are to be housed in separate rooms, four to a bed; plank beds are being constructed for enlisted personnel. As of 22 March 1945, two-tiered plank beds for 500 persons have been constructed. Small metal stoves have been installed in the rooms.

Premises of the former Infantry School have been prepared for the transfer point, with a total living area of 15,061 square meters. The military housing area has been re-equipped with plumbing and electricity; dining facilities have been built and equipped and washstands and field latrines installed. People are being accomodated on the floor on straw mats.

Accomodations in transits camps and in the transfer point are satisfactory, but require a number of improvements.

II. PASSAGE OF CONTINGENTS

As of 22 March a total of 11,711 Allied prisoners had arrived; of them:

British 2,163

Americans 2,486

French 7,062

Departed on three vessels from March 7 through 1 :

British 1,837

Americans 1,709

French 2,839

Total departed 6,385

Remaining in camps:

British 326

Americans 777

French 4,223

Total: 5,326

On 22 March at 1900, 89 individuals arrived; of them:

British 6

Americans 8

French 75

Expected to arrive on 23 March: 435 individuals; of them:

Americans 20

British 415

Two military transport ships were expected to arrive on 22-23 March:

1. "Sarkasha" with 1,641 persons

2. "Deutschestofriechmand" with 3,702 persons

A total of 7,740 former prisoners of war of the Red Army arrived at the transfer point and all were sent on before 22 March.

III. MEDICAL SUPPORT

The Odessa Military District medical section allotted 300 beds in hospital No. 1266 and 200 beds in hospital No. 1777, as well as 50 beds in a hospital for infectious diseases, to prepare for the reception of Allied prisoners of war and to provide medical support for the special contingents.

Medical units were created in the camps and in the assembly transfer point to provide medical and sanitation support.

Resources sufficient to conduct medical activities (Bathing laundry and disinfectant train No. 72, ODR [unknown acronym] No.100 and a garrison bathing facility. If needed, bathing and laundry train 433 can be made available.

The required amount of medicines and soap has been allotted.

No outbreaks of infectious diseases occur Ed during the time the contingents were located in the transit camps and at the assembly-transfer point.

The medical and sanitation resources allotted are fully sufficient to support the transfer point and transit camps.

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IV. CLOTHING AND RELATED SUPPLIES

There is a complete supply of bedding -- filled mattress covers for the enlisted and a full set of bedding for the officers.

Of the British and American allied POWs arriving nearly all have a full issue of clothing, few require additional items. The majority of the French arriving are poorly outfitted and as of 22 March up to 2,500 sets have been expended to outfit them.

The problem of towels must be solved. The district has only coarse calico towels, which should not be issued to this contingent as they frequently discard them. The District cannot provide thick towels because they are not available. The District must be regularly re-supplied in order to ensure a constant flow of these materials.

V. FOOD SUPPLIES

All Allied POWs receive three hot meals per day from their rations and from additional supplies from the Military Missions. The officers take their meals individually in mess facilities, the enlisted from cook pots in their rooms. The District has food supplies, but there is an insufficient variety of grain products, almost no vegetables and an incomplete range of seasonings. There have been no complaints about the food either from the POWs or from the Missions, only positive comments.

VI. MILITARY EXCHANGE

Retail outlets are open, but not everywhere, and demand cannot always be met due to the limited selection of goods and low quality. Barbershops are operating, but again, not all of them. Assistance is required from the Central Military Exchange and Narkomtorg [People's Comissariat of Trade].

CONCLUSION:

1. Camp operations may be considered satisfactory, which has been pointed out repeatedly in the national press, but I have had difficulty in achieving this, for the District did not begin implementing Directives No. 1/1240645 and 1/124064 until my arrival.

It bears mentioning that for 15-20 days the District's Military Soviet and the entire staff of the Deputy Commander for Logistics were engaged exclusively in preparing the camps.

2. In April it would be advisable to move the camps from municipal buildings into a tent encampment, at least with respect to the schools. To do so, it will be necessary to make available to the District tents for 5000-6000 persons and up to 300 cubic meters for equipment and supplies.

3. To ensure uninterrupted supplies of clothing, bedding, etc., order the maintenance of a constant stock for 10,000 persons, including women and children. It would desirable to issue the POWs thick towels, duffel bags and items needed to clean footwear.

4. The question of improving the nutritional standards of the officers, including field grade officers, must be addressed.

5. Also address the problem of financing the PoWs in the camps.

6. Four groups, each numbering up to 50 persons, were sent from Moscow for the purpose of monitoring and assisting the district: the first from the Rear Area Chief and three separate groups from the Commissioner for Repatriation. All of them, acting independently and without coordination, frequently did not help, but rather hindered the District. A single management structure should be established.

Control from the Rear Echelon Chief is needed, since the District has several missions other than its primary functions, including providing for the camps. The District considers this a burden, and thus many things have been done only at my insistence.

General-Major [Signature]

/Karavayev/

[21?] March 1945

TFR 1-5

PLEASE NOTE THAT PAGES TFR 1-5 THROUGH TFR 1-9 WERE NOT TRANSLATED BECAUSE THEY WERE ILLEGIBLE.

TFR 1-5 through TFR 1-9

TFR 1-10

FEB 19 '92 10:26 DC WA2756 HOTELECOPY ONE WASHING P.2/6

Fax: 1-703-614-3200

Feb 18, 1992

Please deliver to DAS Al Ptak ASAP

From: Paul M. Cole, Rand

Sergei Zamascikov, Rand

Mr. Ptak needs this before the meeting this

evening. This is a meeting concerning

MIA-POW affairs.

Please call to confirm deliver:

Paul at Hotel: 202-872-1680 Rm 705

Sergei at Pentagon: J8 Mtg. w/ 61. 3 George Brzck

Total pages: 4

TFR 1-11

List of Deceased Americans

Surname, Date of Place of Date of Number and

First name Birth birth death Location of Camp

Pet[?]nymic

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1. Boos, Ian, Ian* 1914 Lancaster, USA Jan 12, 45 5929

Voroshilovgrad

Oblast

2. Wilkins, Wilhelm, 1913 No place given Feb 12, 45 3943

Jeank (no location)

3. Gaib, Arnold, 1902 No place given April 26, 1944 62

August* Kiev Oblast

4. Zenf, Ronald 1922 Elbing, Germany Jan 25, 45 165

Ronald* Ivanovo oblast

5. Conradi, George 1906 No place given July 6, 1945 5951

Tambov oblast

6. Niedel, Franz 1906 No place given March 16, 44 22

1st N[??] front

7. Rander, Heinrich, 1916 No place given Jan 12, 45 5929

Heinrich* Voroshilovgrad

oblast

* The father's name is probably used as the middle name.

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Name DoB Place DoDeath Camp

8. Rapp, Herbert 1890 Fali, USA July 14, 45 Cheliabinsk oblast

Rudolph A02

9. Sakal, Yugeni 1905 San Francisco, June 26, 45 3888 ASSR

Iosif USA Udmurt [?]

10. Falconi, Benedetto, 1914 No place given Feb 25, 45 No info

Pieteo given

11. Frech, Erhard 1909 Richmond, May 5, 45 38

Mikhail Indiana USA Ismail oblast

12. Sheck, Carl 1924 Milvavni, USA Feb 25, 45 1149

Andreds (this is correct) Zaporozhye

13. Schlag, Herman 1923 Los Angeles, USA April 26, 45 1035

Herman Kiev oblast

14. Schlaude, Alois, 1920 Bermen, Germany July 22, 44 242

TFR 1-13

List of Deceased Americans: Assessment from Paul M. Cole and Sergei Zamascikov

1. All of these people died during or shortly after WWII.

2. Most of these people were of draft age, German origin. It is likely they served in the German army.

3. The list can hardly be considered an official document. It is not signed. There are no official logos or identifying marks.

4. The list cannot be comprehensive. The number of U.S. citizens in the Gulag in the 1940s was considerably higher. It is not clear why the Russians have given out such a list.

5. It is likely these people are part of the 108 collaborations who are mentioned in the Isvestia article on February 3, 1992.

6. The senate delegation was not treated seriously by the Russians.

7. This list is from the attached article!!!

TFR 1-14

[Translator's note: Handwritten translation of pp. 1-2 of TFR1 1-5 is found on pp. 4-5 of TFR 1-5. It is complete and accurate. Our translation of the enclosed (TFR 1-5 p.7) article from Izvestia follows.]

Izvestia Investigates

WHERE ARE ROBERT REYNOLDS AND HIS COMPANIONS?

In April of 1950 some American pilots were shot down over the Baltics. Their fate remains unknown.

Valeriy Rudnev, "Izvestia"

The veil that concealed the fates of our countrymen, formerly hidden in secret archives of the soviet state, has now begun to lift slightly to reveal similar fates of foreigners. The truth has been learned about the Poles shot at Katyn. Documents on a Soviet labor camp for Japanese POWs have been made public. Access has been granted to files on Italians taken prisoner during the Great Patriotic War. There is an American side to this story. A lot is being written on this topic, basically linking it to secret operations of special Soviet organizations for internment of American servicemen. Izvestia is beginning its own investigation of the issue.

Robert Reynolds, lieutenant, a U.S. Navy pilot, was shot down over the Baltics on 8 April 1950. At least that is the claim of his widow, Jane Reynolds-Howard, in a letter dated 4 November 1991 to the head of Soviet state security. But to this day neither she nor the families of the other crew members -- Frank Beckman, Joseph harass, Tommy Burgess, Joe Denens, Jon Fett, William Homer, Edward Per cell,

Howard [Sieschef?], Jack Thomas -- have received any definite information on their fate from the American or Soviet governments.

six months after Robert Reynolds' plane was shot down, his two daughters -- Christine and Caroline -- were born. And six months after that Lieutenant Reynolds was declared officially dead. But Jane believed in something better. And although it was difficult for her without a husband and with two small children, she began her own investigation, no longer counting on any help from officials.

It is well known that America is obsessed with patriotism. Yuri Smirnov, chairman of a Russian parliament subcommittee on POW affairs who recently returned from the United States, said that he was struck by the unity of purpose in a seemingly mixed and multilayered society, in a passionate and almost frenetic desire to find and immortalize the soldiers who failed to return from foreign lands. But even in America not everything is possible.

Late last year 92 U.S. senators sent a letter to the Russian President requesting access to state security archives and to the Gulag system in order to get a clear answer to the simple question of whether or not American citizens are being kept prisoner in Soviet camps. American journalists are asking for help from their Soviet colleagues. A joint journalistic investigation of MIAs during the Vietnam War was recently shown on Russian television's "Fifth Wheel." American collector Jim Atwood has offered ten thousand dollars to anyone who can produce documented evidence of at least one American PoW being in the Soviet Union. If an American PoW is found alive, the prize goes up to one million (!) A similar regard of one hundred thousand dollars is being offered by an American public organization, "Accuracy in the Media," which published an announcement in a Ho scow newspaper. Another public organization -- the National Alliance of Families of U.S. PoWs -sent tho KGB a list of 120 names of servicemen about whom the alliance believes information exists ln special archives of the former soviet Union; The list includes POWs from World War II, fliers shot down while violating Soviet air space, and officers and enlisted men missing in action in Laos, Vietnam, Korea, and other countries. The National Alliance of Families ls asking for an investigation into circumstances surrounding the disappearance of specific individuals, including Robert Reynolds and his companions.

From Jane Reynolds-Howard's letter: "Bob and his friends were seen in Camp No. 5 near Vorkuta in September of 1950. Then their trail leads to the area of the Taishet railway station in Siberia (camp No 20), where an officer from Bob's crew died in a hospital on the Taishet-Bratsk line. There is information that others were seen in the Kolymo camps."

Why have we started our investigate on with a specific story? Perhaps it would be much more important to understand the overall situation -- the nature of our presence in Korea, Vietnam and other hot spots around the globe. Or is it to look for deserters who, according to Russian officials, fled from the U.S. Army to hid- out in USSR territory. Or is to try to lay bare the evil intrigue of Soviet and American counterintelligence agents. Of course, it is tempting for a journalist to get involved in these issues. But for the time being we will not recheck or expose anyone. We will simply try to help an American woman, Jane Reynolds-Howard, and her two children, Christine and Caroline. And we will come to understand a story that, all things considered, was typical for the now obsolete (we hope) "cold war." A war in which there were no open battles, no prisoners were taken and no one declared a POW. Operations ln that war were conducted in secret and people disappeared without a trace. Or perhaps not. The trail led to the archives. It is there we began our search for Lieutenant Robert Reynolds and his companions.

Central state Special Archives. Stored here are materials of the Main Directorate for Prisoner of War and Interned Affairs. Victor Bondarev, director of the special archive, permitted "Izvestia" to study the personal files of Americans, labelled "Top Secret." Of course, we didn't see any real state secrets, and the

holdings of the special archives are not rutty accessible to

researchers.

Thin folders with a grey government cover sheet. A file on prisoner of war Herman, Sh. Camp No. 62.

File number 2744. Year and place of birth -- 1923, Los Angeles. Date of arrival to the camp -- 10 Aug 1944. The file closes with his death on 26 Apr 1945. The diagnosis -- dystrophy. Burial was in a public cemetery in Kiev.

The file on prisoner of war Roy, Charles G. Born in New York in 1923. Taken prisoner in May, 1945. File ends on 12 Feb 1947 when he was sent to his homeland.

"According to data presently available at the special archive," recounts V. Bondarev, "108 American prisoners who fought on the side of fascist Germany turned up on USSR territory during the Great Patriotic War. Sixty eight of those, after a brief stay in special camp No. 68 in Tambov Oblast, were released and returned to their homeland. Fourteen died, and the location of their graves has been established. The fate of another twenty six is not presently clear. At least for the year 1947 they were listed in documents as being kept at the camp. Most likely, they too were transferred to the American side (repatriation of Americans basically ended by 1950). We are now checking out the documents for that possible version. And we are obtaining more specific information on the existing lists."

"But in the press there are claims about thousands of American POWs from World War II."

"What you are referring to is apparently the thousands of our allies taken prisoner by the Germans, freed by us and sent to the United States via Odessa."

"And the fate of U.S. citizens who may have been in Gulag camps in the 50s?"

"Our archive contains information only on prisoners of war from World War II."

"So, you won't be able to discern the fate of Robert Reynolds and his companions who were shot down over the Baltic in April of 1950."

"I can't help you there. Look for information about that in other agencies and archives."

We went to the addresses suggested to us.

Main Directorate for Correctional Affairs. This is the police agency that possesses information about those serving sentences for criminal offenses on the territory of our country. And it is natural that we went to them, for Reynolds' story is somewhat similar to another -- that of F. Powers, who was shot down in 1960, convicted of espionage and for some time served a sentence in

Soviet correctional labor facility.

The directors of the MDCA (Main Directorate for Correctional Affairs) know from newspaper accounts of American servicemen who are allegedly in Soviet camps. However, according to documents of the correctional labor facilities there are no Americans there

"In any event, since 1970 there have been no other individuals of American citizenship, including servicemen, in our colonies," explains one of the heads of the MDCA. "There are Vietnamese, Koreans and Citizens of other countries. There is one Israeli citizen serving a court-ordered sentence. There are no Americans. Give us some time, however. We'll check it out. You know, we have no special secrets. We get prisoners only on the order of a court. Moreover, the only colony for foreigners in the entire country is there for everyone to see. Dozens of delegations have been there."

Ministry of Defense, Main Intelligence Directorate (GRU) of the Armed Forces. There is also good reason for our interest in the military archives: Reynolds could only have been shot down by the military; the exact date of the event is known. All that needs to be done is to obtain more information about the circumstances. But it wasn't that simple. We couldn't even get into the Ministry of Defense -- everything ended with a brief telephone conversation: "Yes, there is a problem..., we need to look into and decide the question of declassifying certain documents..., of course, the public has the right to know the whole

truth..., but I'm not the person to talk to, try calling X." So a new telephone number (the thirteenth) shows up in my notebook. This was the telephone number of Chief of Staff V. Samsonov. Only he, according to officers from the Ministry of Defense, could give permission for a check of the specific event involving Robert Reynolds. But we have yet to reach the general. Therefore, I'll take the opportunity to write a brief note for him: "Dear Viktor Nikolaevich! Of course we are interested in the military's opinion of the topic of American servicemen being discussed in the press. We realize that time is needed to fully study the archives and to make a decision on the classification level of documents. Therefore we request that you check only one episode of the "cold war": 8 April 1950, U.S. Navy aircraft, the Baltics."

From Jane Reynolds-Howard's letter: "Bob and his companions long ago earned your pardon. The time has come to send American prisoners home. Their families are waiting to this day. This act would be a start toward healing the wounds in the hearts of many Americans. I pray for you and your wife every day.

I will remind you that Jane wrote this letter to the head of Soviet state security. Now the former head of state security. The man who pushed through profound changes in the KGB, who took the unusual step of turning over to the Americans listening devices that had been installed in the embassy building. How are the new leaders of the state security apparatus likely to behave?

Russian Federation Ministry of Security. So now it's called the former KGB. But despite the fact that the ministry is now more involved in structural reorganization and reassigning personnel, they did give us a polite reception. They even assigned an officer to assist us.

I confess that it was at Lubyanka that we were shown Jane Reynolds-Howard's letter and the photograph of Lieutenant Reynolds. The feeling there is that it is foolish to keep such events secret. That gives rise to rumors, conjecture and sometimes out and out false representations of the activities of Soviet intelligence services. But the entire paradox is that a once powerful agency that possessed all government secrets in one place has now disintegrated. And the archives, at one time unified, are now in the hands of various directors. It's not so easy, even for an officer of state security, to answer the question: what happened in April of 1950 in the skies over the Baltic? And even if they discover the answer, they won't be able to reveal it -- many documents bear the stamp "Top Secret."

What's the way out? At Lubyanka they believe that the issue should be addressed together with the parties involved -parliament, the government, the military, the intelligence services. Incidentally, that's what they think at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Supreme Soviet and the President's staff. But everything takes time.

So, we'll wait. In the meantime, without counting on an opportunity to lo OX at the archival documents in the near future, we turn to people's memory. If you have any information about the event concerning Robert Reynolds and his fellows in the crew, or if you can shed any light on the circumstances described in his wife's letter, let us know. Let's try to help at least a few American families. This is our duty as human beings.

From Jane Reynolds-Howard's letter. "I feel no hostility toward the Soviet people. I understand the situation that got Bob and his companions into the Soviet gulag. Of course, my data may seem unconvincing. Therefore I ask you to help me learn the whole truth about my husband and his companions. No matter how sad it may be..."

Photos Lieutenant Robert Reynolds in 1950.

TFR 1-15

In this connection it would be deemed advisable to deploy Lieutenant Colonel O. M. Nechiporenko,

senior assistant to the chief, 1st Department, Directorate K of the PGU [expansion unknown] [approximately one full line of text is apparently whited out here] to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam for 14 days, at the expense of the KGB at the USSR Council of Ministers.

Request approval.

Chief, First Main Directorate

KGB at the Council of Ministers

General-Lieutenant

[signature] (MORTIN)

20 November 1972

No. 153/12512

[illegible signature]

TFR 1-16

[Translator's note: Text begins in lower half of page; probably an excerpt of a complete letter]

Considering the need to obtain the materials of interest to us and to clarify a number of related issues [remainder of line and approximately half of next line apparently whited out] it would be deemed advisable to deploy Lieutenant Colonel O.M. Nechiporenko, senior assistant, First Department of Directorate K of the PGU, to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam for 14 days, at the expense of the KGB at the USSR Council of Ministers.

Request authorization.

Chief, First Main Directorate

KGB at the USSR Council of Ministers

General-Lieutenant

[signature] Mortin

7 February 1974

No. 153/1224

[illegible signature]

TFR 1-17

[Translator's note: In upper right: "Translation from English"]

Received by mail

S October 1949 AMERICAN EMBASSY

Moscow, USSR, 4 October 1949

No. 575

Your Excellency,

I have the honor of referring to your note verbale No. 35 of 7 May 1949, which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs directed to the Embassy in connection with the release of many American citizens from imprisonment in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. These citizens are listed in this note.

The Embassy's materials, as well as information received from other American diplomatic missions, indicate that in addition to the American Citizens mentioned in the above note, there remains imprisoned in the Soviet Union another group consisting of 31 American citizens (the majority of them women) forcibly sent to the Soviet Union by Soviet military authorities during or shortly after the conclusion of active military actions in Eastern Europe.

As I have established, the Embassy has for a number of years made repeated representations to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding this additional group of 31 persons, whose status as

[lower left]

To: His Excellency, A.A. Gromyko

Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs

Moscow

TFR 1-18

American Citizens is beyond question. In its responses the Ministry has evidently attached great importance to the fact that in many instances these persons are of German ancestry, as if this alone were sufficient justification for their detention in the Soviet Union for an indeterminate period of time, against their clearly expressed wishes. In none of these cases, however, is it claimed that the individual in question has participated in armed conflict or committed war crimes against the United Nations during the last war. To my knowledge, there is no evidence whatever that any of them have done this. I am convinced that Your Excellency will agree that a person's ethnic background can hardly be deemed to have any bearing on his citizenship.

I consider it necessary to repeat that the majority of the thirty one American citizens to whom I refer in this note are women, that they have been in the Soviet Union for several years, that they are not being given the opportunity to contact their Embassy, and that in the majority of cases their close relatives are in the United States.

TFR 1-19

Along with this note I am forwarding a list of these persons, American citizens, who are recognized as such after a thorough investigation by my Government. They are apparently still being kept by Your Excellency's Government in conditions of forced labor. I would be grateful to Your Excellency if You could give your personal attention to each individual case of these persons with the objective of releasing them and sending them back from the Soviet Union as soon as possible.

Please accept, Your Excellency, my assurances of my highest esteem.

Alan G. Kirk

Translated by: S. Striganov

K . Efremov

Verified by: [illegible signature]

Distributed to comrades:

Stalin

Molotov

Malenkov

Beria

Mikoyan

Kaganovich

Bulganin

[space missing]

Vyshinsky

Zorin

Gusev

USA Department

[possibly: Directorate of Consulates]

General Secretariat

File - 1

No. 45/[illegible]/[illegible]

TFR 1-20

LIST of American citizens detained for forced labor in the Soviet Union, with references in each case to the most recent Embassy communication to the ministry

1. ANTON, Anna Letter to the Deputy Minister

of Foreign Affairs, dated 29

March 1948

2. BAYER, Maria Anna No.S-160, dated 16 April 1949

3. BASSLER, Kate No.S-106, dated 16 March 1949

4. BENKA, John No.S-257, dated 21 June 1949

5. TSELYAK, Mechislav No.S-326, dated 12 August 1949

6. DUKARM, Johm (Hans) Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinsky,

dated 29 March 1948

7. GISHER, Margaret No. S-10 [illegible], dated

12 march 1948

8. GROSS, Ottilia Herbst Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinsky,

dated 29 March 1949

9. HAAS, Teresa No. S-256, dated 21 June 1949

10. HELLMAN, Katerina NO. S-370, dated 2 September 1949

11. HENKEL, Katerina Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinsky, dated

29 March 1949

12. HUBER, Eva Teresa Personal note No. 464, dated

20 August 1949

13. KAZANSKA, Sofia Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinsky, dated

29 March 1948

14. KETCH, Anna Maria Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinsky, dated

29 March 1948

15. KIRSHNER, Mary Johanna No. S-85, dated 7 March 1949

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16. KLEIN, Anna Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1948

17. LATSKIEVICH, Michael Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1948

18. LAZARSKA, Vladislava No. S-492, dated 10 August 1948

19. MARSHALL, Joseph Personal note No. 473, dated

23 August 1949

20. MARSHALL, Paulina Personal note No. 473, dated

23 August 1949

21. MARSHALL, Aldona Personal note No. 473, dated

23 August 1949

22. MILLER, Anthony Jr. No.S-512, dated 2 August 1948

23. MULAVA, Zenon Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1948

24. SCHULLER, Hermina E. Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1949

25. SCHUSTER, Wilhelmina Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1949

26. TIERJUNG, Joseph Jr. Letter to Minister of Foreign

Affairs Molotov, dated 3 October 1947

27. VORMITTAG, Magdalena No.S-86, dated 7 March 1949

28. WAGNER, Hilda E1izaveta Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1949

29. WOLFAHRT [?], Louisa Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1949

30. ZILMAN, Anna No S-111, dated 17 March 1949

31. ZALTNER, Helen Magdalena Letter to Deputy Minister of

Foreign Affairs Vyshinksy, dated

29 March 1949

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THE SECRETARIAT OF COMRADE I. V. STALIN

To Comrade A. N. Poskrebyshev

I am reporting preliminary information about the removal of the English and Americans from the territory of Poland to Odessa by air and rail on 23 March.

1. Total removed: 78 individuals

Among those removed:

Americans 33 individuals

English 45 individuals

The following individuals were not fit to travel and therefore remained hospitalized:

Americans 10 individuals

English 7 individuals

2. This information is divided by front as follows:

a) Belorussian front:

22 Americans were removed:

1. Captain POKER

2. KIDD FREIDRICH

3. Sergeant, 1st Class VANANDGAN Kenad

4. Master Sergeant MARGOLIS Veniamin

5. Corporal ENBLOOD Frank

6. Master Sergeant MARTIN Esef

7. Sergeant, 1st Class ROBERT Massey

8. Sergeant, 1st Class BIGLER Arnold

9. Corporal CHEGENESAN Lowan

10. Sergeant, 1st Class VAQUEZ Anthony

11. Flight Captain PARKER Grovek

12. Flight Lieutenant PEACHY Jim

13. Lieutenant FAGATSEN Janoff

14. Flight Sergeant PROTCH Richard

15. [page cut off]

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16. Lieutenant LUNDERG Ogbert

17. Sergeant NORMAL Leon

18. 1st Sergeant PALMER Gestal

19. 1st Sergeant URAUF Kenzda

20. Flight Captain DANIEL Harpy

21. STEWART Gilzen and

22. Corporal DIGARANIKO Iosiff

There are 12 individuals on the above list who are reaccounted for. They include the crew of the "Flying Fortress" aircrafts, which were shot down.

Ten Americans who were not fit to travel remained in the hospital:

1. LTC [Ober-Lieutenant] FIDELD Morris Martin

2. Captain ERIST Iohann Jacko

3. Lieutenant NUGGLES David Davidovich

4. Private GNEVMAN Heuss John

5. Corporal RUSH Robert

6. JOHN Edward

7. Flight Sergeant VAZENA Mark

8. Private HALL Donald

9. Flight Lieutenant POLLEN Robert

10. Private STENZH FRITCHE and

Seven Englishmen:

1. Corporal HAYLEIGHTON Layist

2. Soldier LYAGSHVOOR, Jan

3. Corporal HALAKAN E. M.

4. Corporal REUTER, A. E.

5. Private MARLING Hallen Hordin

6. Private BAR George and

7. Private KVARK Cornelg

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b) 1st Ukrainian Front

Departed: from Krakow 11 Americans

from Krakow 29 Englishmen

from Czestochowa 16 Englishmen

TOTAL 45 Englishmen

The last names of those who have already been sent are being clarified

3. There were in Katowice healthy Americans and English who were freed during the final battles by the forces of the 1st Ukrainian front (their exact numbers are being clarified). They have been put in rail oars to be transported.

Moreover, information has been received that up to 50 Americans and Englishmen from the Kutno area have appeared in Rembertuv [?].

In addition to this, 7,500 individuals were freed from a camp for foreign POWs at the 1st Belorussian front as part of the final battles in Pomerania. Among these individuals, 18 Americans and 14 Englishmen have been located. They are at the Berlinhen [?] collection point and will be sent to Odessa in the next couple of days.

4. CONCLUSIONS

a) All the English and Americans who have been found, either healthy or sick, either individually or in groups, have begun to be moved from the territory of Poland to Odessa by air or rail.

The main gathering points (Poznan, Katowice, Czestochowa, Krakow) are empty.

b) The remaining individuals who are ill and cannot be transported will be removed to Odessa by air at the first available opportunity.

c) We shall continue and intensify our search for and registration of individuals and small groups of English and Americans on the territory of Poland so that they may be immediately sent to Odessa.

In order to do this, seven officers were sent by air on 23 March 45 by order of Colonel-General, comrade Golikov, authorized representative of the USSR Council of People's Commissars.

d) By order of the Red Army General Staff, the fronts are

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categorically forbidden to send Americans and English to the collection points located on the territory of Poland.

This means that there will be no more Americans or English in Poland within the next few days.

Deputy of the Authorized Representative of the

USSR Council of People's Commissars

Lieutenant-General

[signature]

GOLUBEV

24 March 1945

No 01449

TFR 1-26

Copy No 1

[handwritten] from Comrade Khrushchev

To Comrade I. V. Stalin

According to your instructions,

I am reporting the following:

As of 20 March 1945 the following numbers of Allied and foreign POWs and citizens were freed and taken to be registered:

Americans 2,921 including 2,832 military personnel

English 2,953 2,835

French 45,072 34,110

Italian 11,670 10,560

Polish 16,592 1,341

Other nations 8,914 3,552

TOTAL 88,122 including 55,230 military personnel

Of these, the following were sent:

1. To a transit camp in the city of Odessa

Americans 2,891 including 2,813 military personnel

English 2,823 2,805

French 4,570 4,509

Other nations 52 52

2. To the city of Uzhgorod in Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovaks 1,336 including 50 military personnel

3. To the city of Belgrade in Yugoslavia

Yugoslavs 2,686 including 1,071 military personnel

Or were placed:

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4. At the disposition of the Interim Polish government in the city of Warsaw

Poles 9,260 including 726 military personnel

TOTAL NUMBER SENT 23,618 including 12,026 military personnel

Located at the Commandant's Offices at the front:

3rd Belorussian Front 19,179 12,866 military personnel

2nd Belorussian Front 12,[?]15 11,451

1st Belorussian Front 13,896 11,580

1st Ukrainian Front 16,421 6,767

4th Ukrainian Front 768 139

2nd Ukrainian Front 456 305

3rd Ukrainian Front 104 2

Zemland Group 614 140

2nd Baltic Front 451 51

TOTAL 64,504, of them:

Americans 30

English 130

French 40,502

Italians 11,670

Poles 7,332

Other nations 4,840

There are 160 Americans and English, among them 86 wounded and sick, who are being treated in hospitals at the front. They will be sent to the Odessa transit camp on 23 March of this year.

GENERAL OF THE ARMY [signature]

A. Khrulev

TFR 1-28

MEMORANDUM

on the repatriation of military personnel and interned U.S. citizens freed from captivity by forces of the Red Army, 1944-1946

On the basis of archival records it has been established that the agencies in the Soviet Union responsible for repatriation of liberated military personnel and interned citizens of the allied states, including the United States of America, were:

-- in the central region -- the directorate of the authorized USSR SNK [Soviet of Peoples Commissars] representative for repatriation affairs (General-Colonel Golikov, F.I.);

-- on the fronts, groups of forces and some military districts -- directorates for repatriation affairs;

-- in the armies -- departments of repatriation affairs.

The Red Army rear area staff and its local organs provided materials, meals and financial support, as well as medical services.

Assembly points and transit camps were formed in the fronts, groups of forces and some military districts for the immediate reception and subsequent evacuation of military personnel and interned citizens of the allied forces, including the United States.

The functions of the departments for repatriation affairs in the front military soviets, the military districts and groups of forces and the commandants of the assembly points were governed by appropriate instructions.

The evacuation of repatriated military personnel and interned citizens of the allied states, including the Americans, was conducted basically in three ways:

1. By sea via transit camps No. 138, 139 and 186 in the City of Odessa, on vessels of the US, England, Holland and other nations.

2. By rail

3. By direct transfer from assembly points (after the end of hostilities).

As of 1 March 1946 a total of 1,016,588 individuals, including 22,479 U.S. citizens, were returned to their homelands.

Some lists of repatriated and interned U.S. citizens who passed through transit camps No. 138, 139, and 186 in Odessa are stored in the Central Archives of the Ministry of Defense.

Photocopies of the archival records related to this issue are attached.

Deputy Chief, Central Archives of the Ministry of Defense

[Signature] LUCHKIN, Colonel

24 January 1992

TFR 1-29

OFFICE OF THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE ON REPATRIATION ISSUES

OF THE USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

MOSCOW, KROPOTKINSKY LANE, 7

TELEPHONE G-6-11-00

No 005085 2 December 1946

To the chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces

Marshall of the Soviet Union comrade A. M. Vasilevsky

Report No 54 for 1 December 1946

1. Information on the Results of Registering and Repatriating USSR citizens

TOTAL CIVILIAN POWs

POPULATION

Partial data have established that the enemy captured and carried off the following numbers of individuals:

6,834,708 4,829,60 2,005,648 (only those found and registered)

From among them, the number found and taken to be registered:

5,715,162 3,709,514 2,005,648

From those found, the number repatriated:

5,415,925 3,582,358 1,833,567

Including:

Those who were assigned a location:

5,382,990 3,551,324 1,831,666

Those who were located at the battle or front zones

32,935 31,034 1,901

Those due to be repatriated from foreign governments: Soviet citizens from the Baltics, Westerners and "defectors," all of whom are under Anglo-American command:

299,237 127,156 172,081

Those who have not been found from among those captured by the Fascists. Evidently most have perished:

1,119,546 1,119,546 unknown

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3-959

[stamp]

NUMBER OF LIBERATED, INVENTORIED AND REPATRIATED ALLIED AND FOREIGN POWs AND INTERNED CITIZENS, as of 3/1/46

No. Nationality Total freed Of them

Repatri- Incl. across In USSR

ated/ frontlines terri-

trans- tory

ferred and in

to home- groups

land of

forces

---

1 2 3 4 5 6

---

1 Americans 22,487 22,479 19,013 8

2 British 22,468 22,465 20,006 3

3 French 311,254 310,030 277,062 1,224

4 Italians 166,531 166,263 159,869 268

5 Poles 173,826 173,749 - 77

6 Yugoslavs 127,646 127,182 71 464

7 Belgians 35,043 34,846 30,457 197

8 Czechoslovaks 44,573 43,312 - 1,261

9 Dutch 35,668 35,032 33,773 636

10 Norwegians 1,156 1,151 1,062 5

11 Luxembourgians 2,373 2,295 2,164 78

12 Danes 1,017 968 963 49

13 Swedes 36 30 15 6

14 Rumanians 29,029 28,907 41 122

15 Hungarians 23,113 22,823 - 290

16 Greeks 7,940 7,929 36 11

17 Bulgarians 2,009 1,998 1 11

18 Swiss 847 822 820 25

19 Spaniards 212 149 91 63

20 Albanians 9 9 6 -

21 Turks 50 26 - 24

22 Austrians 11,801 11,766 65 35

23 Finns 100 95 - 5

24 Palestinians 13 13 - -

25 Chinese 3 - - 3

26 Brazilians 19 17 17 2

27 Argentinians 3 3 3 -

28 Panamanians 22 22 22 -

29 Serbs 25 25 - -

30 Scots 4 4 4 -

31 Egyptians 6 6 6 -

32 Polish gypsies 170 170 - -

33 Hindu 1 1 1 -

34 Iranians 1 1 1

1,021,455 1,016,588 544,S69 4,867

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2 [illegible]

4 Dec 1946

18:40

[left side illegible] Entry No 8898

2 pages

4 Dec 1946

16:50

TFR 1-30

US Ambassador Harriman delivered this to V. M. Molotov on 2 January 1945

Translation from the English

A telegram from Roosevelt to Harriman about Pierson's articles on American airmen interned in the USSR who fled.

The director of censorship was given instructions by me to take steps to avoid the future publication of any information on interned Americans fleeing from neutral or Allied countries.

Translator: [signature] Potrubach

Distribution:

Comrades Stalin

Voroshilov

Mikoyan

Beria

Malenkov

Vyshinksky

Dekanozov

US Department

[handwritten] 8-m